

## CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1        1. (previously presented) A method of making an  
2        elongated structural component having regions of different  
3        thicknesses along a length thereof matched to different loads  
4        adapted to be applied to said component, the method comprising the  
5        steps of sequentially:

6        (a) rolling flexible metal strip so as to form along a  
7        length thereof rolled strip segments of different wall thickness;

8        (b) cutting from the flexible rolled strip sheet bars  
9        having regions of the different wall thicknesses formed by rolling  
10      in step (a) and matched to different loads to be applied to the  
11      component;

12      (b') providing in said strip at thinner segments thereof  
13      corrugations compensating for thickness differences in said strip  
14      and facilitating stacking thereof;

15      (c) reshaping each sheet bar cut from the rolled strip in  
16      step (b) to a final configuration of the respective structural  
17      component in at least one forming step in at least one hot-forming  
18      tool; and

19      (d) hardening the respective reshaped sheet bar thereof  
20      in the respective hot-forming tool.

21      2. (previously presented) The method defined in claim  
22      1, further comprising the steps of:

3 marking positions of strip segments of different wall  
4 thicknesses prior to cutting step (b); and  
5 in cutting step (b) positioning a cut contour precisely  
6 using the positions marked on the strip.

7 3 - 5. (canceled)